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January 18, 2004

Mr. John Heyer  
President's Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled  
1421 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800  
Arlington, VA 22202-3259

**Re: Docket No 2004-01-01 Governance Standards for Central Nonprofit Agencies and Nonprofit Agencies Participating in the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Request for Comments; 69 Fed. Reg. 65395 (November 12, 2004)**

Dear Mr. Heyer:

This is to give you my comments on the proposed new rules for executive compensation and board governance.

With respect to executive compensation, nobody at this facility has even come close to making half of what you are proposing as the limit. However, some of the agencies have executives who earn close to the proposed limit or even more and I believe, in most cases, these people are worth what they are making.

I don't see the relevance in basing their salaries on what a government employee might earn. Where is the commonality?

In order to compare apples to apples, you should be comparing their salaries with business executives in for profit firms of comparable size and sales. These agency executives have a lot more in common with entrepreneurs than they do bureaucrats.

Regarding board governance: most non-profit board members are volunteers who are successful in their own fields and are simply trying to give something back to their communities. We usually have to ask - sometimes beg - these people to serve on our boards and there are not an abundance of people who are willing to do it.

In the rare instance where someone starts a non-profit organization and then packs the board with

friends and relatives to the extent that it becomes a rubber stamp for the CEO - you need to take issue with these on an individual basis.

In short, I don't believe the committee is the place to regulate these two issues nor do I find in the law where they are given the authority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Porter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Bob Porter  
Executive Director

RB/mch